

Action Lines

Room for child care

Have you thought about expanding the size of the rooms and the number of children allowed in the hourly care program? In the babies' room, there are five slots for the entire base, and it's been a big problem trying to get children in there to take advantage of the program.

Present funding, floor space and regulatory guidance does not allow us to expand our hourly child care. Unfortunately, we can only accommodate 23 children from ages 1 to 6.

Other care options are available.

Spaces are often open in the child development center. Contact the RAF Lakenheath Child Development Center at Ext. 3285 or 3829 or the RAF Feltwell Child Development Center at Ext. 7020.

Another option is to use the family child-care program; providers are licensed by the support group commander to provide child care in their homes.

A listing of all licensed providers and homes is available in the family child-care

office, Bldg. 640, or at the child development center. Call Ext. 3718 for further information.

Facility opening hours

Is there any way community facilities can open before 10 in the morning, especially on Fridays? The bank, commissary and base exchange all open at 10 a.m. If they were open sooner, a lot of people who drop their children off could get in to these facilities.

Facility hours are set to best accommodate the majority of customers. The commissary already opens at 9 a.m. The bank is currently open at 9 a.m. every day except Friday. As a result of your call, we've requested permission from the bank's main branch to open at 9 a.m. Fridays. The commissary and exchange hours will remain as published. I encourage customers to comment on facilities' hours of operation using customer feedback forms available in all base facilities. We will revisit hours if there is a community need and patronage supports the change.

Storage sheds for residents

Are people who live in base housing areas that don't have storage areas able to receive the new sheds the self-help store is offering?

Yes, eventually. Our storage shed initiative will replace ugly, dilapidated sheds with a base standard and provide storage sheds in all housing areas. Unfortunately, funds are tight; so this will take time.

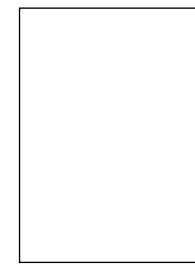
Many occupants have bought their own sheds on the local economy and the cost is not reimburseable. Like people without government provided sheds, however, those who bought a shed have the same opportunity as anyone else for a new government-provided shed. Therefore our policy is based upon providing, as a priority, sheds to people with houses that have no exterior storage space. The self-help store maintains a list of these houses and a list of self-help sheds already allocated. Incidentally, a self-help shed is one that you must assemble yourself. For this reason, many people choose to acquire their own.

Car insurance prices

Does anyone regulate the insurance prices that the on-base concessionaires charge? Can anything be done about their outrageous prices? Could there be a warning in sponsor packages?

The insurance industry, like any commercial activity, is based on supply and demand. United Kingdom insurance company prices are "regulated" by the customers they serve. If they're too expensive, customers

Action Line



The Action Line is your direct link to me for complaints, suggestions, or comments. It's not intended to replace the chain of command. When normal command and agency channels haven't been able to resolve your concerns, call (Ext. 2324), fax (Ext. 5367), e-mail

(Action_Line), send through distribution (48 FW/PA), mail (48 FW/PA, Unit 5210 Box 215 APO AE 09464-0215), or hand carry your Action Line to the public affairs office (Bldg. 1085). You may remain anonymous; to receive a reply, however, leave your name, unit, duty or home phone number, and full APO mailing address. Names will be kept confidential.

48th Fighter Wing commander

go elsewhere.

The on-base insurance brokers are simply there for the convenience of the community. As a prudent shopper, it is up to the individual to search for the best buy.

Rates for the on-base brokers are set by their insurance underwriters, not the base. When an individual produces a legitimate off-base quote that is cheaper than the broker's current rate, the broker will contact the underwriter to see if they will match the price. When shopping for insurance remember caveat emptor, "let the buyer beware."

People who have problem with on-base insurance brokers should call Geri Beers at Ext. 3720.

Sponsor program

My father and I went to the RAF Mildenhall passenger terminal (Jan. 7) and were there on time to pick up the person who we were sponsoring. Two Lakenheath sponsors did not show up. This behavior casts a bad image against Lakenheath, and I hope this problem can be resolved.

We take our sponsor program very seriously at RAF Lakenheath. A military person from our INTRO program greets the airplane every Tuesday at RAF Mildenhall to ensure inbound personnel and their families are taken care of in the event a sponsor fails to show. Jan. 7, we had a representative present and he does not recall anyone stranded at the terminal. We also checked our sponsor critiques for that day and none of the inbound noted a problem with failure of a sponsor to meet them at the terminal. We can only surmise that either the individuals did not request a sponsor and were waiting for the bus to Lakenheath, or their sponsors were on the way to pick them up. Thank you for your inquiry.

Editorial staff

Col. Doug Richardson 48th Fighter Wing commander

Capt. Patrick Ryder Publicaffairs chief

MSgt. Scott Martin Publicaffairs NCOIC

SSgt. Scott Davis Editor

SrA. Sarah Franco Staff writer

Published by Forest Publishing (E.A.) Ltd., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 48th Fighter Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas. Contents of the "Jet 48" are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Forest Publishing (E.A.) Ltd. of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office of the 48th Fighter Wing. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

The deadline for submissions to the "Jet 48" is noon Friday, the week prior to publication. For weekend events, the deadline is noon Monday prior to publication, provided the editor is notified in advance. The public affairs office reserves the right to edit all material submitted for publication. Contact the editor in Bldg. 1085, call Ext. 5640, e-mail Jet48@lakenheath.af.mil or fax Ext. 5637.

<http://www.lakenheath.af.mil/current/jet48.htm>

On the cover

Photo by SSgt. Scott Davis
SSgt. Chris Austin, left, and SrA Robert Reyff help keep the 492nd Fighter Squadron environmentally friendly by turning in used items to the hazardous material collection point. For more on helping the environment, see pages 12-13.